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IBM CORPORATION
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EXAMINER

BAYARD, DJENANE M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

DATE MAILED: 11/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/933,625

Applicant(s)

BISDIKIAN ET AL.

Examiner

Djenane M Bayard

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. The applicant presented two claims numbered 33. For examining purposes, the misnumbered claims 33-36 have been renumbered 33-37.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 31, 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,308,213 to Valencia.

- a. As per claim 31, Valencia teaches an apparatus for a user using a client device attached to a wireless, circuit-switched, voice telephony network, to interact with at least one service, said apparatus comprising: a telephone modem to receive an incoming call from a client device, and also to receive and transmit data over a telephone network, said telephone modem having a client port through which the apparatus attaches to the telephone network (See col. 3, lines 44-47 and col. 4, lines 14-38) (The remote client is coupled to the ISP that accesses the Internet infrastructure via a PSTN ... The network

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access server NAS includes a modem for receiving and processing data transmitted from the remote client) ; a dial-in service module to implement dial-in logic for the client device ; and a protocol transport module to implement protocols needed to transport data back and forth between a browser application in the client device and a browser server (See col. 3, lines 60-67 and col. 4, lines 1-14) (the remote client accesses the Local Area Network through the dial-up session... and the remote client can access any of the resources on the LAN ... the dial-up session uses a L2F protocol to project a point-to-point link level session).

b. As per claim 36, Valencia teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Valencia teaches wherein said dial-in server module triggers at least one particular module in the apparatus to process any incoming calls and requests from a client device (See col. 2, lines 10-19).

c. As per claim 37, Valencia teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Valencia teaches wherein said dial-in server module performs user authentication (See col. 2, lines 34-45)

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-3, 5-8, 10, 12, 15-22, 24, 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0068559 to Sharma et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,735,619 to Sawada.

a. As per claims 1 and 29, Sharma et al teaches a method for a user to interact with at least one remote service, comprising: said user connecting to a serving entity using a client device attached to a wireless, circuit-switched, voice telephony network (See page 2, paragraph [0019] (the system enables a network manager, operating remotely, to manage networks through a mobile wireless device)). However, Sharma et al fails to teach obtaining and viewing a list of accessible remote services from said serving entity; selecting said at least one remote service from said list; and accessing and viewing said at least one remote service in obtaining desired results.

Sawada teaches a home network gateway apparatus and home network device. Furthermore, Sawada teaches wherein the network gateway displays a list of home network devices on the display of the device (See col. 1, lines 39-43) and controlling the home network device via the list menu, sending control information to the home network device based on the device information and making the device execute the operation as instructed (See col. 2, lines 45-52).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate obtaining and viewing a list of accessible remote

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services from said serving entity; selecting said at least one remote service from said list; and accessing and viewing said at least one remote service in obtaining desired results as taught by Sawada et al in the claimed invention of Sharma et al in order to make remotely control home network devices available using wide-area network such as the Internet (See col. 1, lines 30-34).

b. As per claim 2, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches wherein the client device is portable (See page 3, paragraph [0037]).

c. As per claim 3, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches wherein the client device is a cellular telephone (See page 3, paragraph [0037]).

d. As per claim 5, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches wherein the viewing is performed employing a viewing device collocated with said client device (See page 3, paragraph [0037]).

e. As per claim 6, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches wherein the viewing device depicts information in a form including at least one of: text, graphics, images, light display, or any combination of these (See page 3, paragraph [0037]) (Remark: It is inherent that the mobile device depicts information in at least one or more these forms in order to manage the network assets).

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f. As per claim 7, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above.

However, Sharma fails to teach wherein the step of selecting includes employing a menu.

Sawada teaches wherein the step of selecting includes employing a menu (See col. 2, lines 1-2)

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein the step of selecting includes employing a menu as taught by Sawada in the claimed invention of Sharma in order to allow the user to exercise concentrated control over the home network devices through the homepage list and remotely control the home network devices via the homepage (See col. 2, lines 3-6).

g. As per claim 8, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above.

However, Sharma teaches wherein the step of viewing is performed employing a web-browser and the serving entity is a web-server.

Sawada teaches wherein the step of viewing is performed employing a web-browser and the serving entity is a web-server (See col. 2, lines 45-52 and col. 4, lines 35-41).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the step of viewing is performed employing a web-browser and the serving entity is a web-server as taught by Sawada in the claimed invention of Sharma in order to allow the user to exercise concentrated control over the home network devices through the homepage list and remotely control the home network devices via the homepage (See col. 2, lines 3-6).

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h. As per claim 10, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above.

Furthermore, Sharma teaches wherein the data network is the Intranet controlled by an Internet Service Provider (See page 14, paragraph [0153]).

i. As pr claim 12, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above.

Furthermore, Sharma teaches serving entity employing attributes of said circuit switch network in authenticating said user (See page 7, paragraph [0061]).

j. As per claim 15, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above.

Furthermore, Sharma teaches establishing credentials so that said at least one remote service can be manipulated in a secure manner on the serving entity (See page 3-4, paragraph [0092]).

k. As per claim 16, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above.

Furthermore, Sharma teaches wherein the step of viewing views the list on a viewing device in a manner that depends on the user's access privileges to said at least one remote service (See pages 3- 4, paragraph [0092]).

l. As per claim 17, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above.

Furthermore, Sharma teaches the serving entity providing access to at least one service agent used to access and control said at least one remote service.

m. As per claim 18, Sharma in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as

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described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches wherein at least one of said at least one service agent is a computer software module executable on a computer (See page 6, paragraph [0052]).

n. As per claim 19, Sharma in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches activating said software module prior to invoking a particular remote service (See page 6, paragraph [0052]).

o. As per claim 20, Sharma in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches activating said software module on demand after a particular remote service has been invoked (See page 6, paragraph [0054]).

p. As per claim 21, Sharma in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches storing said software module at a data repository (See page 8, paragraph [0068]).

q. As per claim 22, Sharma in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches dynamically retrieving and activating said software module from the data repository after invoking a particular remote service (See page 6, paragraph [0054-0055]).

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r. As per claim 24, Sharma et al in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma fails to teach wherein said wireless, circuit-switched, voice telephony network is a second generation, digital, cellular network (See page 3, paragraph [0037]).

s. As per claim 27, Sharma teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma teaches an article of manufacture comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing a user to interact with at least one remote service, the computer readable program code means in said article of manufacture comprising computer readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the steps of claim 1 (See page 3, paragraph [0052-0054]).

t. As per claim 28, Sharma et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma et al teaches a program storage device readable by machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform method steps for causing a user to interact with at least one remote service, said method steps comprising the steps of claim 1 (See page 3, paragraph [0052-0054]).

v. As per claim 30, Sharma et al in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described. Furthermore, Sharma et al teaches a computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing a user to interact with at least one remote service, the computer

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readable program code means in said computer program product comprising computer

readable program code means for causing a computer to effect the functions of claim 28

(See page 3, paragraph [0052-0054]).

6. Claims 4, 9, 11, 13-14, 23 and 25- 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0068559 to Sharma et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,735,619 to Sawada as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,308,213 to Valencia.

a. As per claim 4, Sharma et al in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Sharma et al in view of Sawada fails to teach wherein the step of connecting includes dialing-up directly to the serving entity.

Valencia teaches a wherein the step of connecting includes dialing-up directly to the serving entity (See col. 2, lines 5-10).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein the step of connecting includes dialing-up directly to the serving entity as taught by Valencia in the claimed invention of Sharma et al in view of Sawada in order to access a private local network through an internet access service (See col. 1, lines 11-12).

b. As per claim 9, Sharma et al in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Sharma et al in view of Sawada fails to teach wherein the

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step of connecting includes dialing-up to the serving entity through a data network to which the serving entity is connected.

Valencia teaches wherein the step of connecting includes dialing-up to the serving entity through a data network to which the serving entity is connected (See col. 2, lines 11-19).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein the step of connecting includes dialing-up to the serving entity through a data network to which the serving entity is connected as taught by Valencia in the claimed invention of Sharma et al in view of Sawada in order to access a private local network through an internet access service (See col. 1, lines 11-12).

c. As per claim 11, Sharma et al in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. Furthermore, Sharma et al teaches wherein the data network uses the TCP/IP protocol suite for transporting information (See page 9, paragraph [0076]).

d. As per claim 13, Sharma et al in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Sharma et al in view of Sawada fails to teach wherein said attributes include a telephone number of said client device.

Valencia teaches wherein said attributes include a telephone number of said client device (See col. 4, lines 15-23).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein said attributes include a telephone number of said client device as taught by Valencia in the claimed invention of Sharma et al in view

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of Sawada in order to access a private local network through an internet access service (See col. 1, lines 11-12).

e. As per claim 14, Sharma et al in view of Sawada teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Sharma et al in view of Sawada fails to teach wherein said attributes include a telephone number of said serving entity.

Valencia teaches wherein said attributes include a telephone number of said serving entity (See col. 4, lines 15-23).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein said attributes include a telephone number of said serving entity as taught by Valencia in the claimed invention of Sharma et al in view of Sawada in order to access a private local network through an internet access service (See col. 1, lines 11-12).

f. As per claim 23, Sharma et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Sharma fails to teach wherein said wireless, circuit-switched, voice telephony network is a first generation, analog, cellular network.

Valencia teaches wherein said wireless, circuit-switched, voice telephony network is a first generation, analog, cellular network (See col. 3, lines 44-47).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein said wireless, circuit-switched, voice telephony network is a first generation, analog, cellular network as taught by Valencia in

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the claimed invention of Sharma et al in view of Sawada in order to access a private local network through an internet access service (See col. 1, lines 11-12).

g. As per claim 25, Sharma et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Sharma et al in view of Sawada fails to teach wherein the step of dialing-up directly to the service entity further includes passing dialing signaling and control data to the serving entity through an intermediary data network.

Valencia teaches wherein the step of dialing-up directly to the service entity further includes passing dialing signaling and control data to the serving entity through an intermediary data network (See col. 3, lines 44-54).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein the step of dialing-up directly to the service entity further includes passing dialing signaling and control data to the serving entity through an intermediary data network as taught by Valencia in the claimed invention of Sharma et al in view of Sawada in order to access a private local network through an internet access service (See col. 1, lines 11-12).

h. As per claim 26, Sharma et al teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Sharma et al in view of Sawada fails to teach wherein the step of dialing-up to the serving entity through a data network, further includes dialing-up to the serving entity through a sequence of at least one data network, the last one of which the serving entity is attached to.

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Valencia teaches wherein the step of dialing-up to the serving entity through a data network, further includes dialing-up to the serving entity through a sequence of at least one data network, the last one of which the serving entity is attached to (See col. 3, lines 60-67 and col. 4, lines 1-14).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein the step of dialing-up to the serving entity through a data network, further includes dialing-up to the serving entity through a sequence of at least one data network, the last one of which the serving entity is attached to as taught by Sharma et al in the claimed invention of Valencia in order to access a private local network through an internet access service (See col. 1, lines 11-12).

7. Claims 32-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,308,213 to Valencia in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,735,619 to Sawada.

a. As per claim 32, Valencia teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Valencia fails to teach wherein said browser server is used to obtain, organize, and manipulate data received from and data sent to the client device through the protocol transport module.

Sawada teaches wherein said browser server is used to obtain, organize, and manipulate data received from and data sent to the client device through the protocol transport module (See col. 2, lines 44-52).

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It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention to incorporate wherein said browser server is used to obtain, organize, and manipulate data received from and data sent to the client device through the protocol transport module in order to make it easy to control home network devices (See col. 2, lines 60-63).

b. As per claim 33, Valencia teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Valencia fails to teach wherein said data sent to the client device are displayed and viewed by the browser application in the client device.

Sawada teaches fails to teach wherein said data sent to the client device are displayed and viewed by the browser application in the client device (See col. 1, lines 39-42).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate fails to teach wherein said data sent to the client device are displayed and viewed by the browser application in the client device as taught by Sawada in the claimed invention of Valencia in order to make it easy to control home network devices (See col. 2, lines 60-63).

c. As per claim 34, Valencia teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Valencia fails to teach wherein said data sent includes a list of services that are accessible by the client device.

Sawada teaches wherein said data sent includes a list of services that are accessible by the client device (See col. 1, lines 39-42)

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It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein said data sent includes a list of services that are accessible by the client device as taught by Sawada in the claimed invention of Valencia in order to make it easy to control home network devices (See col. 2, lines 60-63).

d. As per claim 35, Valencia teaches the claimed invention as described above. However, Valencia fails to teach wherein said data received by the browser application in the client device include a selection of at least one service the user of the client device controls and an action to be taken for a selected service, and upon receipt of the action the browser server interacts with a particular service agent to implement the control logic for controlling the selected service, wherein a control signal generated by the service agent exits the apparatus through the client port.

Sawada teaches wherein said data received by the browser application in the client device include a selection of at least one service the user of the client device controls and an action to be taken for a selected service, and upon receipt of the action the browser server interacts with a particular service agent to implement the control logic for controlling the selected service, wherein a control signal generated by the service agent exits the apparatus through the client port (See col. 2, lines 27-52).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate wherein said data received by the browser application in the client device include a selection of at least one service the user of the client device controls and an action to be taken for a selected service, and upon receipt of the action the

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browser server interacts with a particular service agent to implement the control logic for controlling the selected service, wherein a control signal generated by the service agent exits the apparatus through the client port as taught by Sawada in the claimed invention of Valencia in order to make remotely control home network devices available using wide-area network such as the Internet (See col. 1, lines 30-34).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 5,886,732 to Humpleman teaches a set-top electronics and network interface unit arrangement.

U.S. Patent Application No. 2002/0091784 to Baker et al teaches a web interface to a device and an electrical network control system.

U.S. Patent No. 6,724,868 to Pradhan et al teaches a telephone-enabled internet access system.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Djenane M Bayard whose telephone number is (571) 272-3878. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday 5:30 AM- 3:00 PM..

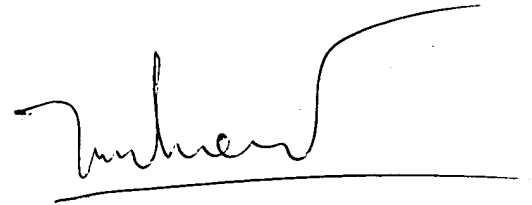
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571) 272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Djenane Bayard

Patent Examiner

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Le Hien Luu', written over a horizontal line.

LE HIEN LUU
PRIMARY EXAMINER